

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition, comprising:

- a) at least one block copolymer, comprising at least two terminal poly(vinyl aromatic) blocks and at least one central block of randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene mixtures in an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio of from 45/55 to 55/45, having a poly(vinyl aromatic) content in the range of from 17 wt% to 20 wt%, a total apparent molecular weight in the range of from 180,000 to 190,000, a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4 vinyl bonds of at most 15 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks, and a coupling efficiency in the range of from 63% to 80%, and occurring in a weight proportion of from 40 wt % to 45 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition,
- b) an aliphatic/aromatic hydrocarbon tackifying resin, containing less than 16% by weight of aromatic structure as determined by H-NMR, a differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) glass transition temperature (Tg) between 30°C and 55°C, and a Ring and Ball softening point between 85°C and 95°C, in a weight proportion of from 45 to 55 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition,
- c) a plasticizer, in a weight proportion of from 5 wt % to 15 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition; and having a stable hot-melt viscosity of plus or minus 5% of the starting value after 24 hours at 177°C and having a hot-melt viscosity of ≥ 80 Pa.s at 177°C.

12. (Currently Amended) The low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition of claim 11, wherein the block copolymer component (a) is a S--(I/B)--S block copolymer, wherein S represents a block of polymerised substantially pure styrene and (I/B) represents a randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene block, ~~and wherein the Poly Styrene Content is in the range of from 17 wt % to 20 wt %.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition of claim 12, wherein the component (a) block copolymer has an apparent total molecular weight of from 180,000 to 185,000, ~~an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio in the range of from 45/55 to 55/45~~, and a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4-vinyl bonds, each in a proportion of from 5 to 10 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks.

14. (Currently Amended) The low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition of claim 4 11, wherein the component (b) has an H-NMR aromatic structure in the range of from 4 wt % to 10 wt %.

15. (Currently Amended) The low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition of claim 4 11, wherein the component (c) is a mineral oil.

16. (Currently Amended) An adhesive tape and label, comprising a carrier having disposed thereon a low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition, comprising:

- a) at least one block copolymer, comprising at least two terminal poly(vinyl aromatic) blocks and at least one central block of randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene mixtures in an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio of from 45/55 to 55/45, having a poly(vinyl aromatic) content in the range of from 17 wt% to 20 wt%, a total apparent molecular weight in the range of from 180,000 to 190,000, a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4 vinyl bonds of at most 15 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks, and a coupling efficiency in the range of from 63% to 80%, and occurring in a weight proportion of from 40 wt % to 45 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition,
- b) an aliphatic/aromatic hydrocarbon tackifying resin, containing less than 16% by weight of aromatic structure as determined by H-NMR, a differential scanning calorimetry

(DSC) glass transition temperature (Tg) between 30°C. and 55°C, and a Ring and Ball softening point between 85°C and 95°C, in a weight proportion of from 45 to 55 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition,

c) a plasticizer, in a weight proportion of from 5 wt % to 15 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition;
and having a stable hot-melt viscosity of plus or minus 5% of the starting value after 24 hours at 177°C and having a hot-melt viscosity of ≥ 80 Pa.s at 177°C.

17. (Currently Amended) The adhesive tape and label of claim 16, wherein the block copolymer component (a) is a S--(I/B)--S block copolymer, wherein S represents a block of polymerised substantially pure styrene and (I/B) represents a randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene block, ~~and wherein the Poly Styrene Content is in the range of from 17 wt % to 20 wt %.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The adhesive tape and label of claim 17, wherein the component (a) block copolymer has an apparent total molecular weight of from 180,000 to 185,000, ~~an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio in the range of from 45/55 to 55/45~~, and a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4-vinyl bonds, each in a proportion of from 5 to 10 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks.

19. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape and label of claim 16, wherein the component (b) has an H-NMR aromatic structure in the range of from 4 wt % to 10 wt %.

20. (Previously Presented) The adhesive tape and label of claim 16, wherein the component (c) is a mineral oil.

21. (Currently Amended) A packaging tape, comprising a carrier having disposed thereon a low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition, comprising:

- a) at least one block copolymer, comprising at least two terminal poly(vinyl aromatic) blocks and at least one central block of randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene mixtures in an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio of from 45/55 to 55/45, having a poly(vinyl aromatic) content in the range of from 17 wt% to 20 wt%, a total apparent molecular weight in the range of from 180,000 to 190,000, a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4 vinyl bonds of at most 15 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks, and a coupling efficiency in the range of from 63% to 80%, and occurring in a weight proportion of from 40 wt % to 45 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition,
- b) an aliphatic/aromatic hydrocarbon tackifying resin, containing less than 16% by weight of aromatic structure as determined by H-NMR, a differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) glass transition temperature (Tg) between 30°C and 55°C, and a Ring and Ball softening point between 85°C and 95°C, in a weight proportion of from 45 to 55 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition,
- c) a plasticizer, in a weight proportion of from 5 wt % to 15 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition;
and having a stable hot-melt viscosity of plus or minus 5% of the starting value after 24 hours at 177°C and having a hot-melt viscosity of ≥ 80 Pa.s at 177°C.

22. (Currently Amended) The packaging tape of claim 21, wherein the block copolymer component (a) is a S--(I/B)--S block copolymer, wherein S represents a block of polymerised substantially pure styrene and (I/B) represents a randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene block, ~~and wherein the Poly Styrene Content is in the range of from 17 wt % to 20 wt %.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The packaging tape of claim 22, wherein the component (a) block copolymer has an apparent total molecular weight of from 180,000 to 185,000, ~~an~~

isoprene/butadiene weight ratio in the range of from 45/55 to 55/45, and a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4-vinyl bonds, each in a proportion of from 5 to 10 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks.

24. (Previously Presented) The packaging tape of claim 21, wherein the component (b) has an H-NMR aromatic structure in the range of from 4 wt % to 10 wt %.

25. (Currently Amended) The packaging tape of claim 21, wherein the component (c) is a mineral oil comprising a composition according to claims 1-5 on a carrier.

26. (Currently Amended) Block copolymers to be used in the low viscosity, hot-melt stable adhesive composition comprising: at least one block copolymer, comprising at least two terminal poly(vinyl aromatic) blocks and at least one central block of randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene mixtures in an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio of from 45/55 to 55/45, having a poly(vinyl aromatic) content in the range of from 17 wt% to 20 wt%, a total apparent molecular weight in the range of from 180,000 to 190,000, a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4 vinyl bonds of at most 15 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks, and a coupling efficiency in the range of from 63% to 870%, and occurring in a weight proportion of from 40 wt % to 45 wt %, relative to the weight of the complete composition.

27. (Previously Presented) The block copolymers of claim 26, characterized in that they have the structure S--(I/B)--S, wherein S represents a block of polymerised substantially pure styrene

and (I/B) represents a randomly copolymerised isoprene/butadiene block.

28. (Currently Amended) The block copolymers of claim 26, characterized in that they have an apparent total molecular weight of from 180,000 to 185,000, ~~an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio in the range of from 45/55 to 55/45~~ and a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4-vinyl bonds, each in a proportion of from 5 to 10 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks.

29. (Currently Amended) The block copolymers of claim 27, characterized in that they have an apparent total molecular weight of from 180,000 to 185,000, ~~an isoprene/butadiene weight ratio in the range of from 45/55 to 55/45~~ and a content of 1,2-vinyl bonds and/or 3,4-vinyl bonds, each in a proportion of from 5 to 10 wt % in the conjugated diene blocks.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)